

Valley Forge NHP

2006 Visitor Survey Card Data Report



Introduction

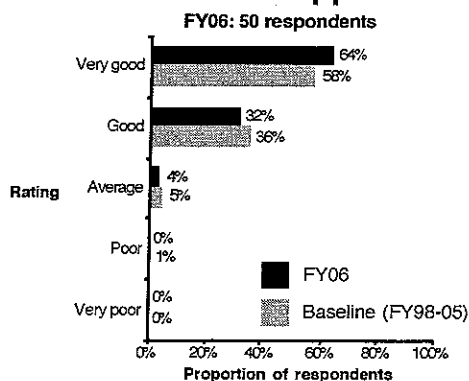
To assist the National Park Service in complying with the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA), a visitor survey was conducted in units of the National Park System in FY06. The survey was developed to measure each park unit's performance related to NPS GPRA Goals IIa1 (visitor satisfaction) and IIb1 (visitor understanding and appreciation).

The results of the Visitor Survey Card (VSC) survey conducted at this park are summarized in this data report. A description of the research methods and limitations is on the back page.

Below (left) is a graph summarizing visitor opinions of the "overall quality of facilities, services, and recreational opportunities." This graph compares FY06 data (shown in black) with baseline data (shown in gray). The satisfaction measure below this graph is a combined percentage of "good" and "very good" responses. This is the primary performance measure for Goal IIa1. (The satisfaction measure may not equal the sum of "very good" and "good" percentages due to rounding.)

Below (right) is the FY06 GPRA reporting measure for Goal IIa1. The percentage included in the box should be used for reporting GPRA Goal IIa1 performance. The response rate for this park survey was 13%.

Overall quality of facilities, services & recreational opportunities



FY06: Satisfaction measure: 96%
Average evaluation score: 4.6

Understanding the Results

Inside this report are graphs that illustrate the survey results. The report contains three categories of data—park facilities, visitor services, and recreational opportunities. Within these categories are graphs for each indicator evaluated by park visitors. For example, the park facilities category includes indicators such as visitor center, exhibits, restrooms, and so forth. In addition, responses for indicators within each category are averaged into a combined graph for the category (e.g., combined park facilities). The combined graphs compare FY06 data with baseline data.

Each graph includes the following information:

- the number of visitor responses for the indicator;
- the percentage of responses which were "very good," "good," "average," "poor," and "very poor;"
- a satisfaction measure that combines the percentage of total responses which were "very good" or "good;" and
- an average evaluation score (mean score) based on the following values: very poor = 1, poor = 2, average = 3, good = 4, very good = 5

Very
Poor 1 2 3 4 5 Very
Good

The higher the average evaluation score, the more positive the visitor response

- graph percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding

FY06 GPRA Reporting Measure for Goal IIa1

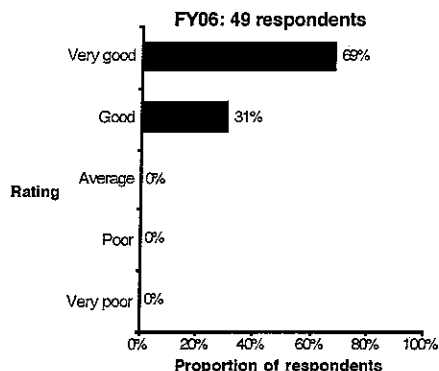
Percentage of park visitors satisfied overall with appropriate facilities, services, and recreational opportunities:

96%



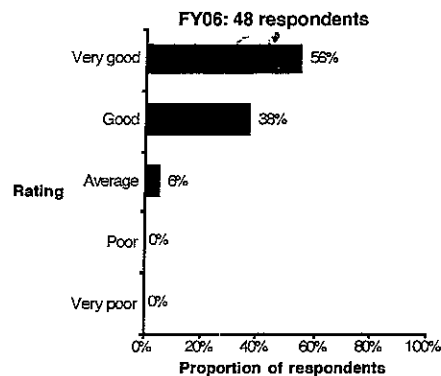
Valley Forge NHP Park Facilities

Visitor Center



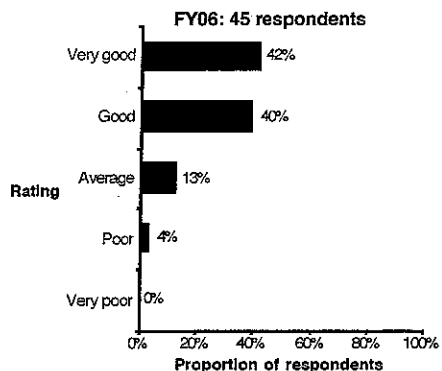
FY06: Satisfaction measure: 100%
Average evaluation score: 4.7

Exhibits



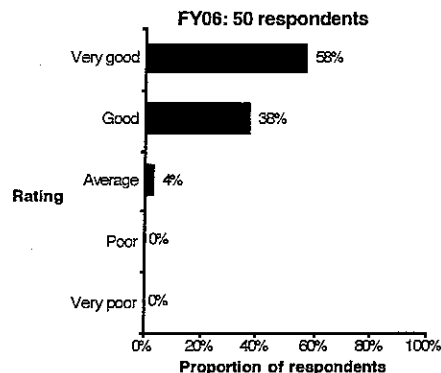
FY06: Satisfaction measure: 94%
Average evaluation score: 4.5

Restrooms



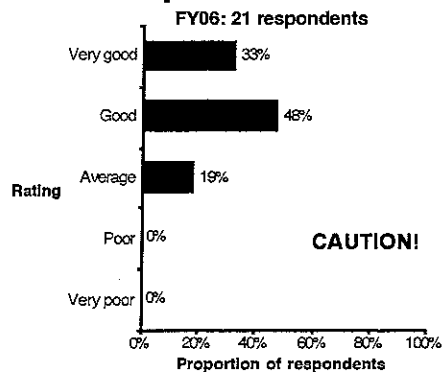
FY06: Satisfaction measure: 82%
Average evaluation score: 4.2

Walkways, trails, and roads



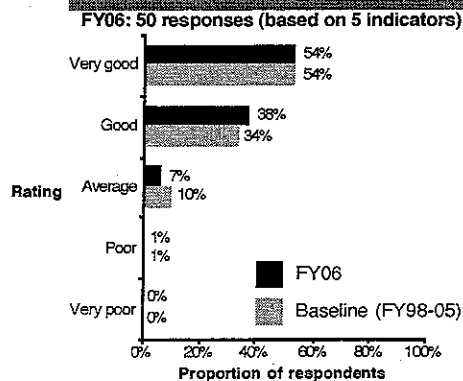
FY06: Satisfaction measure: 96%
Average evaluation score: 4.5

Campgrounds and/or picnic areas



FY06: Satisfaction measure: 81%
Average evaluation score: 4.1

Combined park facilities

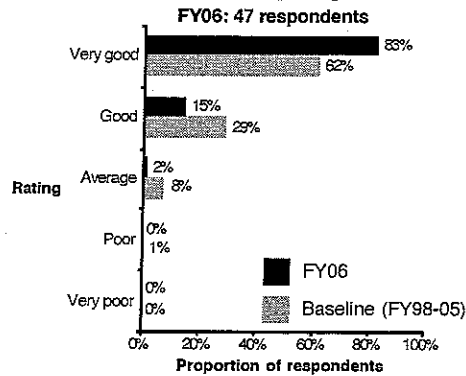


FY06: Satisfaction measure: 92%
Average evaluation score: 4.5

Valley Forge NHP Visitor Services

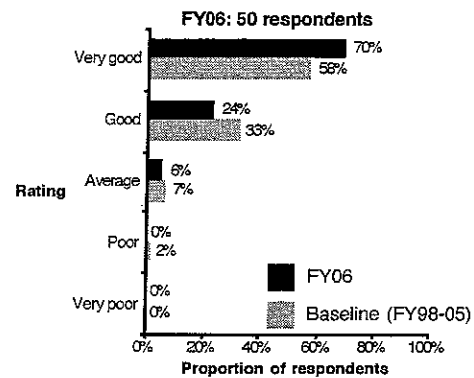


Assistance from park employees



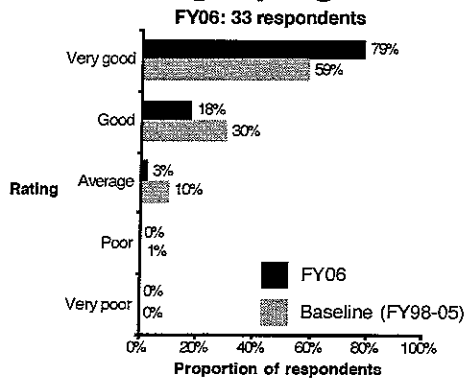
FY06: Satisfaction measure: 98%
Average evaluation score: 4.8

Park map or brochure



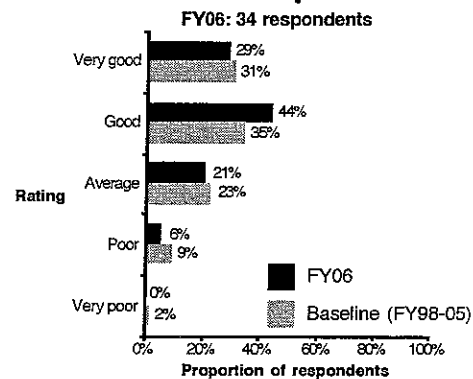
FY06: Satisfaction measure: 94%
Average evaluation score: 4.6

Ranger programs



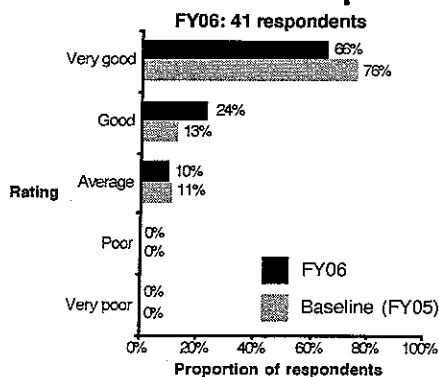
FY06: Satisfaction measure: 97%
Average evaluation score: 4.8

Commercial services in the park



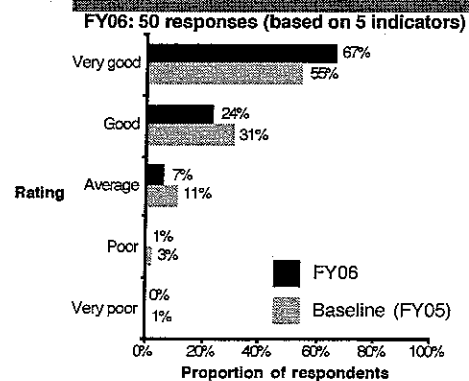
FY06: Satisfaction measure: 74%
Average evaluation score: 4

Value for entrance fee paid*



FY06: Satisfaction measure: 90%
Average evaluation score: 4.6

Combined visitor* services



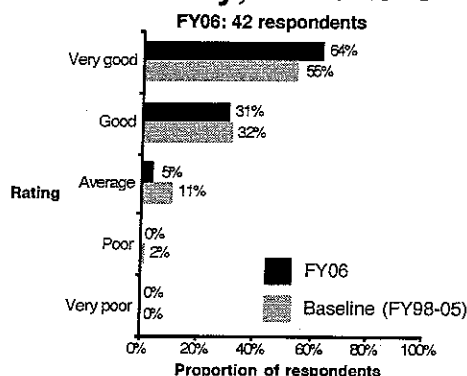
FY06: Satisfaction measure: 91%
Average evaluation score: 4.6

*Baseline data for these charts begin in 2005 due to the addition of the "Value for Entrance Fee Paid" question in the FY05 survey card



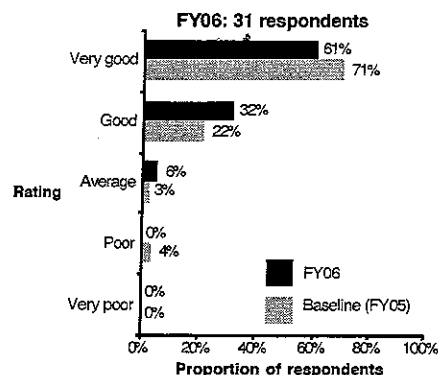
Valley Forge NHP Recreational Opportunities

Learning about nature, history, or culture



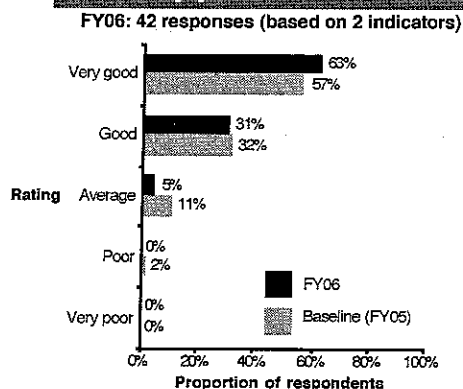
FY06: Satisfaction measure: 95%
Average evaluation score: 4.6

Outdoor recreation*



FY06: Satisfaction measure: 94%
Average evaluation score: 4.5

Combined recreational* opportunities



FY06: Satisfaction measure: 95%
Average evaluation score: 4.6

*Baseline data for these charts begin in 2005 due to the inclusion of "Sightseeing" in the Outdoor Recreation survey question in 2005.

Research Methods

Survey cards were distributed to a random sample of visitors in this park during the period July 1-31, 2006. The data reflect visitor opinions about this NPS unit's facilities, services, and recreational opportunities during the survey period. Visitors at selected locations representative of the general visitor population were sampled. The results do not necessarily apply to visitors during other times of the year, or park visitors who did not visit the survey locations.

Returned cards were electronically scanned and the data analyzed. Frequency distributions were calculated for each indicator and category. All percentage calculations were rounded to the nearest percent. The survey response rate is

described on the first page of this report. The sample size ("N") varies from figure to figure, depending on the number of responses.

Caution is advised when interpreting any data with a sample size of less than 30. In such cases, the word "CAUTION!" is included in the graph. This report excludes any indicator with less than 10 responses.

For most indicators, the survey data are expected to be accurate within $\pm 6\%$ with 95% confidence. This means that if different samples had been drawn, the results would have been similar ($\pm 6\%$) 95 out of 100 times.